

National Fire Plan

US Department of the Interior and USDA Forest Service



March 7, 2002

We would like to invite you to attend the National Fire Plan Conference on April 16-17, 2002 at the Monona Terrace Convention Center in Madison, Wisconsin. The central theme of the conference is collaboration and how we can work more closely with our stakeholders in implementing the National Fire Plan (NFP). We will also discuss the progress, accomplishments, and challenges of the plan.

This meeting is important for fire managers, resource specialists, and line officers from the Department of the Interior wildland fire management agencies, the USDA Forest Service, and stakeholders from the National Association of State Foresters, Western Governors' Association, Tribes and public interest groups to attend. Representatives from a broad range of interests will address conference participants on NFP issues.

We have invited Secretary Veneman and Secretary Norton to speak about the importance of the National Fire Plan, forging partnerships, and collaborating with our stakeholders. In addition, we extended an invitation to Wisconsin Governor McCallum.

In order to have a diverse mixture of conference attendees from all geographic areas, we encourage you to share this letter with your staffs, partners, and associates who are directly engaged in wildland fire issues or implementing and executing the NFP.

The NFP is an interagency response to the severe fire season of 2000. The central themes of the plan are reducing the impacts of wildland fires on rural communities and the environment, ensuring sufficient firefighting resources in the future, and collaborating with all stakeholders. To implement the NFP, Congress increased funding to the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior and directed the agencies to work collaboratively with governors, Tribes, and local government representatives in setting priorities for fuel treatments, burned area rehabilitation, and public outreach and education.

Enclosed is a meeting flyer, information on the poster session, and a draft agenda. Due to the large number of attendees expected, we encourage you to make your reservations as soon as possible.

If you have any questions about the conference, contact Erica Kim (Department of the Interior) at (202) 606-3108, or Jennifer Plyler (USDA Forest Service) at (202) 205-1777. We are looking forward to seeing you at the conference.

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